

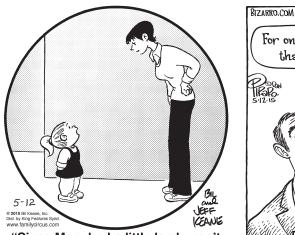
FAMILY CIRCUS | BILL KEANE



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For one thing, it's a lot CHEAPER than the Hair Club for Men.

Hare Club for Men



"Since Mary had a little lamb, can't I just have a little hamster?

ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



BORN LOSER | ART SAMSON



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



Son Who's Angry Over Parents' **Breakup Must Know The Truth**

Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am a divorced mother of four. I have been single for three years, since my ex chose an affair over our marriage. I am successful and manage my home and finances

Press&Dakotan

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I am, however, struggling with pressure from my ex to get back together. He had several affairs during the 13 years we were married. The pain and selfloathing were unbearable for me. He hasn't changed. Yet he tells our 14-year-old son, "Jackson," that he still loves me and "wants only to be with me." He also told Jackson that he doesn't know why I have chosen to keep our family broken up.

I moved hundreds of miles to get away from this stress. I have a great **DEAR ABBY** job and a lovely home. My son stays mad at me, though. He has chosen to live with his dad, and when he visits he demands explanations for why I am not with them. It breaks my heart. I genuinely do not know what to tell him.

His father has already told him about the affairs, but says I should forgive him. Ironically, I DO forgive him. I want my ex to have a beautiful life - without me. What can a mother say to her son to help him understand that some things just won't mend? -MOVED ON IN ALABĂMA

DEAR MOVED ON: You would be doing your son a favor to tell him the truth. As it stands, he thinks that a husband having affairs is nothing serious because that's what his father has told him.

Now it's time to tell Jackson that his father didn't do this just once, he did it repeatedly. Explain that you tried forgiving him, and it only caused you more heartache. Tell your son you love him and you're sorry he's angry at you, but it's clear that his father isn't going to change. And that you would rather remain single than let him touch your body — or your heart – again.

If you do, it may teach Jackson that not all women will accept this kind of treatment and endlessly forgive. If you don't, he may follow

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign

A baby born today has a Sun in Taurus and a Moon in Pisces.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR **TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015**

This year you might feel as if you can't get enough time alone. Your friends make it clear how much they like to hang out with you. Wherever you seem to go, you meet new people and make new friends. You will want to focus on a long-term goal or desire, as you will be able to manifest it from September onward. If you are single, you will have many potential suitors, but someone of significance enters your life after summer. If you are attached, the two of you have a great time together, and are often socializing with an expanding circle of friends PISCES can be very touchy.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)

 $\star \star \star$ You might have a nagging sense that something is off, and you could have a hard time getting past it. Follow your intuition, and you will land well. Someone you care about will have much to share with you. Consider your alternatives more carefully. Tonight: Catch some zzz's.

his father's example and turn out just like dear old dad.

DEAR ABBY: I live in my parents' home. They are long-haul truck drivers and come home every eight weeks or so for a few days. I'm disabled and have a caregiver who comes four days a week.

When my parents stop in and the caregiver is here, they expect her to do for them. They keep four dogs on the truck they take with them and leave four dogs at home with me so that's eight dogs when they are here. I am extremely grateful for this home and I love them very much, but right now I feel like a house/ dog-sitter.

My son has invited me to go on vacation with his family. Is it my responsibility to make arrangements for the dogs they have left

here? I feel like a prisoner in my own home. — HOUSE-SITTER IN THE SOUTH

DEAR HOUSE-SITTER: Because the dogs have been left in your keeping, the responsibility for assuring their safety and well-being in your parents' absence belongs to you. Ask your parents if they would mind a pet-sitter staying in the house when you vacation with your son, or if they would prefer the dogs be placed in a kennel.

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one. This person might need to have an important conversation with you. Try to listen to his or her ideas, even if they seem to be conflicting. There could be some important details you'll need to hear. Tonight: Share more of your authentic self.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

* * * * You could have an opportunity to present a personal matter differently. Listen to a loved one who shares a lot of his or her thoughts and dreams. You might have an important conversation that will be quite unique and important for you. Tonight: Blaze your own trail.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-0CT. 22)

 $\star \star \star \star$ Defer to a new friend or associate. You are likely to enjoy this person's wild imagination and follow-through. Think in terms of fast changes and new beginnings. You will enjoy yourself more if you simply sit back and relax. Do not fight the inevitable. Tonight: Make it easy.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★ ★ ★ ★ Listen to news without inserting your feelings into the situation. You could be far more dynamic if you sift through everything you hear without projecting. A partner might admit to some of the statements being riddled with humor. Tonight: Add your intensity to the mix.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★ Coming from a centered space could

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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

 $\star \star \star \star \star$ Your energy is abundant, and it will become more evident by midday. You'll have a lot of ground to cover and many people to speak to. Exchange ideas openly with an eye to success. Your ability to get past a hassle will be crucial. Tonight: Where people are. Don't be alone.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★ ★ ★ ★ You might wonder about your choices. How you see a personal matter could change drastically after several conversations. Your perspective broadens, and you will see more possibilities emerge. Test out an idea with care. Tonight: The fun begins now.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

* * * * * Reach out to someone at a distance. When you speak to this person, you tend to feel empowered. Recognize how important it is to have a strong, solid outlook to rely on. Turn a negative situation into a positive one just by remaining upbeat. Tonight: Settle in.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

 $\star \star \star \star \star$ Be direct in how you deal with some-

BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS





be a problem. Your mind seems to drift to personal matters. A discussion will be confusing because you might not be totally present in the moment. Be receptive and willing to ask guestions if something doesn't click. Tonight: Take a walk.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

 $\star \star \star \star$ You could be up for a change in the near future. Listen to news with an open mind. A loved one's caring will make it easier to move through a hassle. You might feel stressed out because of your finances, but hang in there, and you'll be OK. Tonight: On top of a problem.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

*** Be aware of what you have to offer, and stay secure despite the fact that a loved one seems to be creating uproar. Deal with money matters, but make decisions only once you are confident of what needs to happen. Tonight: Buy a favorite meal on the way home.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

 $\star \star \star \star$ You have a strong sense of direction. How you handle a personal matter could radically change in the next few days. Your sense of humor and ability to quickly move through a lot of details and errands will allow you to stay on key. Tonight: Impulsiveness feels good!

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VEAH, ISN'T IT